

REMARKS

Favorable consideration and entry of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

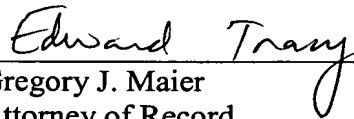
Claims 1, 4-8, 10, and 12-17 are allowed. Claim 1 is amended by the present amendment.

Claim 1 is amended herewith to correct an informality. This informality was uncovered in Applicants' post allowance review of the application and is being timely and diligently corrected. No new matter is involved and no new issues are believed to be raised.

In view of the prior indication of allowability, no further issues are outstanding, and entry of the present amendment is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested so that the patent which issues from this application includes the presently submitted changes.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 24,913

Customer Number

**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 06/04)

Edward Tracy  
Registration No. 47,998